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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/05/2012

TAGS: PREL KNNP IAEA IR EG IS

SUBJECT: EGYPT ASKS USG SUPPORT AT IAEA ON "ALL" OF THE REGION'S PROLIFERATION PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 124747

Classified By: Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

(C) On September 6, the Ambassador pressed Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit to support a strong international chorus at the upcoming IAEA Board of Governors meeting calling for Iran to comply fully and quickly with the requirements set forth in UN security council resolutions 1696, 1737 and 1747. After reviewing reftel points in detail, the Ambassador stressed the importance of Egypt's leadership on the Iran matter. Aboul Gheit acknowledged the importance of convincing Iran to comply, but offered no commitment to support our campaign. Instead, he said "we want you to share our concerns about all proliferation problems in the region, and that means Israel too." Confirming that Egypt will be introducing its own proposal on this issue at the upcoming IAEA meetings, Aboul Gheit said "I expect that, as usual, we will have differences, but we urge your support."

RICCIARDONE